

# PENNSYLVANIA DEFENSE COUNCIL NEWS

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## State Asks 10 pct. Increase in Gardens

### Hutchison Says Stimson Affirms Policy of State

Secretary of War Stimson's statement this month calling for "continued maintenance and training" of Civilian Defense protective forces constitutes a challenge which Pennsylvania readily accepts, declared SCD Director Hutchison.

"It has been the fixed policy of the State Council of Defense to keep our Defense Corps at peak efficiency for any disaster and the War Department's stand affirms and strengthens that policy," he said. "Our job is cut out for us, both in War Services and in Protection, until the war is finally won."

Dr. Hutchison cited the new program of Defense Corps drills adopted at the meeting of County Chairmen on Jan. 25, and the recent ruling of the Attorney General supporting air raid practices as further evidence that Pennsylvania will not relax its defenses.

#### War Not Over

"All of these developments should furnish a convincing answer to those who think the war is over," he declared. "The war will not be over for any of us in Civilian Defense as long as the enemy has planes to strike us or there is danger to war production from civil disasters or any other cause."

"The War Services program, for its part, must not only be maintained but constantly strengthened. The new undertaking in pre-induction meetings is just another indication of the growing responsibilities in this side of Civilian Defense."

In the Stimson statement, which was released by John B. Martin, Acting Director of OCD, it was emphasized that the Army de-activation of aircraft observer posts and its reduction of practice blackouts to one every three months did not

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### Army and Navy Will Help In Pre-Induction Program

Councils of Defense in Pennsylvania will have the cooperation of both the Army and the Navy in carrying on the new program of Pre-Induction Meetings which the SCD this month asked all counties to undertake.

Recruiting stations and cantonments will be instructed to make their specialized personnel available as speakers at nearby meetings. Lists showing the locations of Army and Navy stations have been sent out by the SCD.

Pennsylvania is taking the lead in sponsoring meetings, at the request of the Army's Third Service Command. It is emphasized that large groups of draftees, many of them fathers,

are being called now, and that there is urgent need for authentic information on dependency allowances and similar matters.

In arranging meetings, County Councils will have the assistance of Mrs. Walter Spofford, of the War Services staff of the SCD. Meetings have been conducted so far in **Harrisburg** and **Huntingdon**.

Cooperation of school boards, draft boards, veterans groups, State Guard officials and Red Cross chapters is available in the new program.

Wives and mothers should be invited to the meetings along with the prospective inductees. Army induction films may be obtained for showings.

### Martin Endorses Goal at Meeting of SCD Committee

Pennsylvania Victory Gardeners have been given the job this year of supporting the greatest invasion in history by planting at least 1,540,000 gardens—a 10 per cent increase over last year.

The new quota, adopted at a meeting of the SCD Victory Garden Committee on Feb. 10, was immediately endorsed by Governor Martin, who told the committee that "anything less than this goal will not be enough."

#### Must Have Food

"Food is without question the strongest weapon of war," he declared. "Armies and those who supply them cannot progress very far without food. We must plant more gardens and enlarge our production in every field of agriculture."

In raising its sights 10 per cent above 1943, the committee followed the lead of Federal authorities, who have increased the national goal from 20 to 22 million gardens.

Mrs. H. B. Eliason, committee chairman, emphasized that garden production must be expanded not only through planting of additional gardens but also through enlargement of last year's plots.

"But our major emphasis" she (Turn to page 2, Col. 1)

### Survey Reveals Household Needs

The items that Pennsylvania housewives would like to buy—but can't—and the large amount of food they have canned, are strikingly revealed in reports from the current War Services survey being conducted by block leaders.

Reports have been received from **Washington, Potter, Berks, Wyoming** and **Lehigh** counties, and others are arriving almost daily at the SCD offices. War Services leaders are analyzing and compiling the results.

The first city report came from **Allentown**, where a block leader corps was organized for the first time to carry out this and subsequent assignments. Leaders visited 1256 homes in one representative sector to obtain their first replies.

**Philadelphia** is planning a "spot" survey, **Allegheny** County has prepared elaborate

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#### BIG BOND TOTAL

Block Leaders and Wardens in northern **Luzerne** County sold \$435,000 worth of bonds in door-to-door sales during the Fourth War Loan Drive, accounting for 7 per cent of the county's quota.

About 1500 Block Leaders participated and were credited with \$350,000 of the total. County Council of Defense leaders pointed out that this was one of the best showings made by any of the 160 organizations taking part in the drive.

#### WARDENS GET COMPENSATION

Two Air Raid Wardens in **Allentown** who were injured while on duty have received full compensation for lost time and doctor bills, reports Gen. Frank D. Beary, chairman of **Lehigh** County Council of Defense. They were paid under the U. S. Temporary War Civilian Security Program.

#### LAUDS GARDENERS

Victory Gardeners were given high encouragement by SCD Director Hutchison at the State Committee meeting this month.

"It is a rare privilege in war," he said, "when we can do something constructive and fine. So many of our people must destroy life and property as their job in the war. We in Victory Gardens should count our blessings and redouble our efforts."



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## STATE ASKS 10%

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added, "must be on increased canning. Since there is a definite limit to the amount we can produce, we must make sure that none of the produce is wasted."

### Promises Retorts

Dr. Warren B. Mack, the committee's executive secretary, reported that 200 retorts ordered by the State Council last fall, but not delivered, would arrive in good time for use in canning kitchens next summer. Fifty retorts arrived last fall.

A resolution was adopted expressing "high appreciation of the whole-hearted support accorded by the newspapers to the State Victory Garden Program, through the numerous news stories, feature stories and illustrations which were presented to the public."

Secretary of Agriculture Miles Horst assured the committee that Victory Gardens "have made a very direct contribution to food production in Pennsylvania" and he asked cooperation in eradicating the corn borer by destroying corn stalks and thick-stemmed weeds this spring.

Cooperation of gardeners, Boy Scouts and others in the effort to transfer rabbits away from suburban garden areas was asked by Seth Gordon, Executive Director of the State Game Commission.

"For the first time in years, we have refrained from importing any rabbits from the mid-West this winter," he reported, "but this alone will not solve the problem. We want to trap as many rabbits as possible before the end of March. The commission pays 50 cents per rabbit."

Gordon said the goal is to trap 75,000 rabbits, as compared to 30,000 last year.

### NEW CHAIRMAN

H. W. Minnemeyer, III, has been named chairman of the Washington County Council of Defense, succeeding J. Brady Marble.

## HUTCHISON SAYS

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warrant any letup in Civilian Defense.

"We are," said Stimson, "thoroughly aware of the importance of maintaining a well trained force of civilians in our communities to assist the War Department to meet possible war hazards beyond the scope of its primary mission. This requires the continued maintenance and training of the civilian protective forces along our Atlantic and Pacific coasts for protection against all such war hazards, including air raids."

Stimson strongly endorsed the need for State Defense Council activity "as a matter of national safety" and urged that public bodies consider this in making appropriations.

### Defines Violation

The ruling of Attorney General Duff, dated February 8, holds that any local Defense Council refusing to sound the air raid alarms for a practice or real alert is violating the State Air Raid Precautions Act and also the orders of the Army's Third Service Command.

The following actions may be taken: (1) The State Council may request the municipal authority to replace those responsible for the refusal, (2) A writ of mandamus may be sought in court to compel compliance, or (3) Any citizen may bring an action before a magistrate or justice of the peace.

While the ruling was sought in connection with Waynesboro, where the local Council decided to ignore future practice alerts, Dr. Hutchison announced that its local leaders had since voted to participate in future drills and that the matter was considered closed.

More than 50 counties were represented at the meeting of County Chairmen in Harrisburg, Jan. 25. A thorough discussion of future Defense Corps drills led to the adoption of a plan involving monthly state-wide Control Center exercises and separate local drills at times to be set by the local commander.

The meeting re-affirmed the need for continuous manning of district Warning Centers but decided that Control Centers need not be manned 24 hours if a safe method of alerting the staff could be worked out.

### INACTIVE MEMBERS DROPPED BY COUNTIES

A decline of only 53,237 in state-wide Civilian Defense enrollment has resulted from instructions sent to County Councils of Defense asking them to drop all inactive personnel from their reports.

The new membership total is 1,584,919, including 990,210 in War Services and 594,709 in Protective Services.

### BROWNMILLER PROMOTED

Roy E. Brownmiller, of Pottsville, who served as a WPB Salvage representative in Pennsylvania since May, 1941, was transferred to Washington recently to become deputy chief of the WPB Scrap Metal Unit.

## Phila. Wardens 'Ration' Coal

The letup in practice black-outs has not produced any "let-down" for Philadelphia's 46,000 Air Raid Wardens. In fact, they're busier than ever.

In addition to keeping themselves ready for disasters or raids, the Wardens are now "rationing" coal for fuel-less homes, helping block leaders enlist blood donors, and using their post headquarters as First Aid stations.

All this on top of doing a big job in the Fourth War Loan Drive (Wardens in one zone sold \$850,000 worth of bonds) and assisting the Auxiliary Police in their night-time patrol of streets which was started a year ago.

The coal rationing assignment came at the request of the U.S. Solid Fuels Administration and local dealers, who were besieged by thousands of pleas for emergency deliveries.

### Wardens Check Up

Within 24 hours after the Council of Defense had been designated to handle all such cases, 1500 applications came in by telephone and 300 by mail. All cases are referred to the nearest Wardens, who then investigate and approve those applicants having less than three days' supply of coal.

"The system is working very well, and has relieved countless instances of hardship," said Judge Harry S. McDevitt, Council chairman.

In the blood donor drive, Wardens and block leaders in each of the city's 45 zones have pledged to sign up 20 donors per week—an annual total of 46,800.

The First Aid project involves sponsorship of both First Aid and Home Nursing classes, taught by the Red Cross, in each post headquarters. When a home or neighborhood emergency occurs, the headquarters will be able to assign the nearest trained volunteers to help out until a physician arrives.

### REPORTS ON FATS

A total of 2,231,000 pounds of household fats was salvaged by Philadelphia housewives during 1943, Mrs. C. Dana Williams, of the city's Salvage Committee, reported.

### HOSPITALS AIDED

Two additional hospitals in the Philadelphia area are being assisted by volunteers recruited by Civilian Defense.

In Radnor Township, Delaware County, 54 men have pledged their services for 2 to 8 hours per week. In Germantown Hospital, 56 women have volunteered to perform kitchen and maintenance duties.

### NEW PROGRAM

An educational program calling attention to the city's many free clinics has been started by the sub-committee on venereal disease control of the Philadelphia Council of Defense.

### SHOW WAR FILM

Special showings of the realistic war film "War Department Report" have been arranged for Civilian Defense personnel in all sections of Philadelphia. The film was presented in Convention Hall earlier this month.

## Civilian Defense Leaders



Thomas J. Finn (left) is Chairman of Bradford County Council of Defense and also business manager of the Towanda Daily Review. Charles G. Webb (right) is Chairman of Tioga County Council of Defense.



## SURVEY REVEALS

(Continued from page 1)

questionnaires for visits to all homes, and **Erie, Altoona, and Huntingdon** have started their surveys.

One of the main wartime scarcities so far reported by housewives is in children's clothing, while a big post-war demand for new washing machines and electrical equipment is indicated. In many towns, the average basement is stocked with 200 or more jars of preserved food.

### Early Shopping is Consumer Objective

The SCD Consumer Interests Committee approved plans at a meeting Jan. 21 to distribute wartime consumer information to foreign-language groups and to urge housewives to shop early in the week. Mrs. Conway Zirkle, chairman, presided.

The "early-shopping" plea is designed to ease the pressure on under-manned stores and thus to speed up shopping in general.

George P. Gable, **Altoona**, president of the Pennsylvania Retail Merchants Association, told the committee that current shortages of children's underwear are expected to ease up before the end of March.

### C. D. PERSONNEL TO CURB LOOSE TALK

Every one of Pennsylvania's 1,580,000 Civilian Defense volunteers has been asked by the SCD to give personal support to the Campaign Against Careless Talk, especially during the current pre-invasion period.

SCD Director Hutchison in Bulletin No. 5D, issued Feb. 11, urged that local CD leaders "bring this matter forcefully to the attention of all their personnel." Bits of information carelessly divulged may tell the enemy when and where the attack will come, he warned.

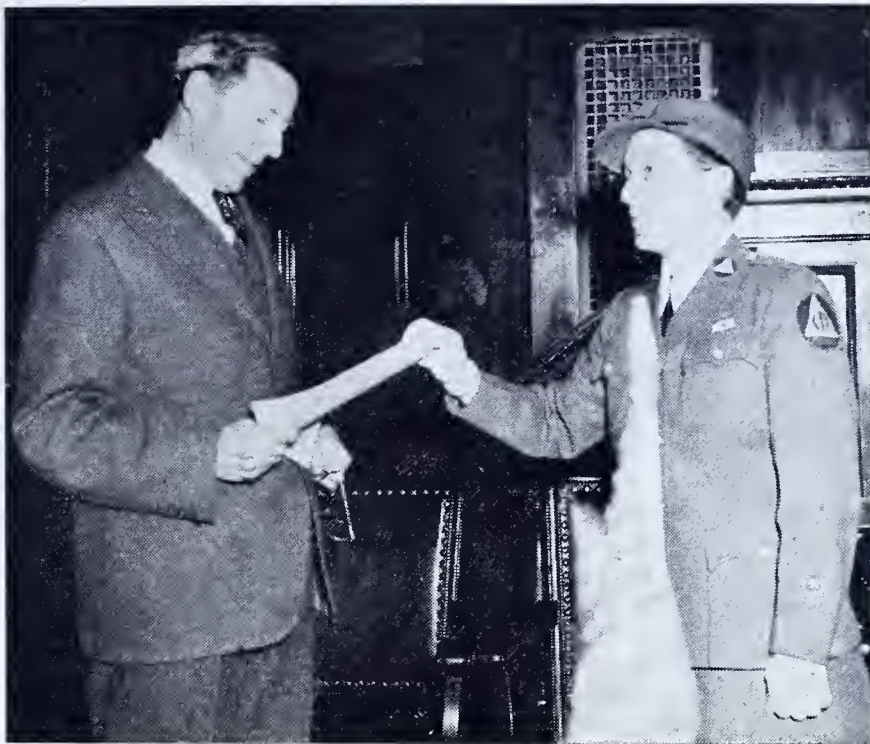
### CONSUMER QUERIES

A description of Pennsylvania's Consumer Interests program given at an Eastern States War Services Conference at New York last month has brought many inquiries for further information.

Mrs. Conway Zirkle, Consumer Chairman for the SCD, has received queries from Connecticut, Maine, Georgia, North Carolina, New Jersey, New York and Rhode Island.

### SALVAGE PAYS

Salvage collections have netted **Reading-Berks** County Council of Defense \$9,950 to date, according to a report by the Conservation Committee.



Mrs. H. B. Eliason, SCD Victory Garden Chairman, presenting resolution commending newspapers for their "whole-hearted support" to William N. Hardy, Manager of Pennsylvania Newspaper Publishers Association. Occasion was committee meeting in Capitol on Feb. 10.

### WARNING CENTERS

At Pearl Harbor, danger seemed to be remote and attack improbable. Therefore, the Warning Centers were not manned 24 hours every day. The result was disaster.

We want to impress on every volunteer who is keeping watch in Warning Centers throughout the State that their's is not the humdrum task that it seems. On their faithful vigil depends the safety of 10 million Pennsylvanians against any UNEXPECTED attack or disaster.

The Centers are not manned just to receive test calls. They are manned to receive REAL warnings, and the function they serve is basically the most important in Civilian Defense.

—Colonel Lynn G. Adams,  
Commander of Protective Services.

### LAUDS ERIE W. E. R. S.

Thanks to the recruitment of women operators, the War Emergency Radio Service in Erie has become one of the best in the country, according to "QST", amateur radio publication.

Women were drawn into the service to replace "ham" operators who went to war. They have proved adept in handling both zone and Control Center messages. The WERS unit in Erie is headed by Lawson Bliley.

### SIX NEW CENTERS

Three new Child Care Centers have been opened in **Delaware** County and three in **Pittsburgh**, bringing the state-wide total to 27, according to Mrs. Benjamin Ludlow, SCD Director of Child Care.

Plans are being made currently for 13 locally-supported Centers and 24 Federal-aid Centers. The Federal applications were filed by **Philadelphia, Chester, Erie, Williamsport, Hazleton** and **Scranton**.

### PLAN SECOND SCHOOL

A second Plant Protection School for **Lackawanna** County, this time to be held in **Carbon-dale**, is scheduled for March 9. The previous school was held in **Scranton** in January, under supervision of Searle vonStorch, county Plant Protection Officer, and P. Anthony Sweet, Executive Officer. SCD and Regional OCD officers participated.

### POST HEADQUARTERS DAMAGED BY FIRE

Seventy CDC volunteers in **Lemoyne**, Cumberland County, lost their Post Headquarters when fire destroyed the local Lutheran church, but luckily the equipment was saved.

John Baum, Senior Warden, reported that stretchers, cots, first aid equipment, armbands, surgical dressings and helmets were the only items undamaged in the entire building. The headquarters has been moved across the street to another church.

## Paper Shortage Severest of All

The paper shortage is still the No. 1 problem facing local Salvage Committees and it will probably continue to be critical until the war is won, warns the SCD Advisory Salvage Committee.

"There are so many new uses for paper—uses in which it has supplanted other war materials," said Colley S. Baker, Executive Secretary. "We have got to increase collections and keep the mills operating."

**Pittsburgh** has started waste paper collections through the schools, with trucks visiting the schools once a week to pick up bundles brought in by 82,000 pupils. **Reading** and several other cities had special collections on Washington's Birthday.

In tin can collections, the State's school children collected 8,630,023 prepared cans during January—more than doubling the total of December.

Pennsylvania led the nation in salvage collections during 1943 but must not let up in its efforts, reported Baker. Scrap metal totals amounted to more than 100 pounds per capita, and waste fats totalled 6,500,000 pounds.

### BLOCK LEADERS IN ALTOONA KEPT BUSY

In their first half-year of operation, **Altoona's** 600 Block Leaders have done everything from selling War Bonds to collecting clothing.

A report by Mrs. James W. Winn, chairman, shows that the group gathered 18,000 garments for Greek War Relief, \$40,000 worth of clothing for the Russians, sold over \$50,000 worth of bonds in the Third War Loan Drive, and awarded 11,204 V-Home stickers, making the city eligible for V-Community Pennant.

The group conducted surveys for WACS, nurses and other volunteers and aided the Salvage Committee by distributing pamphlets.

### REMEDY FOR BURNS

The OCD announced recently that it has withdrawn its recommendation that ointment or jellies containing tannic acid be used in first aid treatment of burns and now recommends that sterile boric acid ointment or petrolatum be used instead.

**PRONTO:** Firemen responding to a call in **Scranton** found the blaze, occurring in an automobile, already under control . . . the driver had used a CD stirrup pump.



## Allegheny To Have County-Wide Drill

"Full speed ahead" was the watchword at an enthusiastic meeting of several hundred Allegheny County Protective and War Services heads in Pittsburgh on Feb. 15.

The meeting, presided over by County Chairman Ross Leffler, voted in favor of a county-wide drill of all Defense Corps personnel once a month and asked that the Army alerts every three months be called at an unannounced hour.

SCD Director Hutchison told the group that "the high morale of the Protective Services has acted as a stimulant to the vastly-needed War Services" and urged that the latter be expanded.

### ALTERNATE CENTER

An alternate Control Center for training purposes and for emergency use in case the regular Center should be put out of commission has been installed in Coatesville.

The Center was planned by Chief Air Raid Warden Harry E. Smith and the equipment was obtained largely through contributions.

### SUCCESS FORMULA

School children in McKeesport have had outstanding success from tin can collections because they have kept at it week after week since the start of the school term.

Up to Feb. 1, the 4,900 pupils in the city's 15 public schools collected 992,159 tin cans, an average of 18 cans for every resident of the city.

### BUYS RESUSCITATOR

To be ready for any emergency, the Belle Vernon Council of Defense has decided to purchase a resuscitator. Public donations will finance the purchase.



Governor Martin is pictured at microphone in his office at the Capitol as he participated in opening broadcast of SCD War Services radio series on Feb. 2. SCD leaders taking part were (left to right): Mrs. Jean D. Doverspike, Mrs. Worthington Scranton, Mrs. Conway Zirkle, and Executive Director Hutchison.

### Opens 'Teen House'

The problem of after-school been solved in Towanda through recreation for young people has the opening of a "Teen House" where pupils may dance, read and play games. Furnishings were donated by townspeople.

The recreation center, located in a former restaurant, is supervised by a committee headed by Mrs. R. F. Culver, who is chairman of the local C.D.V.O. Adults volunteer their time to serve as Senior Aides at the center.

### REPORT ON VOLUNTEERS

The CD Volunteer Office in Erie assigned a total of 1654 volunteers for service with 39 different agencies during 1943, Mrs. Herbert R. Spencer, chairman, reported.

The office was started last Feb. with a list of 2500 volunteers on file. During the remainder of the year 5209 names were added. Office expenses totalled \$290.

### HEADS CDVO

Mrs. Della Weidner has been appointed director of C.D.V.O. in Easton. She succeeds Mrs. Charles P. Maxwell, who became chairman of war services for Area 2 of Northampton County.

### HEADS WAR SERVICES

Judge A. A. Nelson of Ebensburg has been appointed chairman of War Services for Cambria County Council of Defense.

### TO AID GARDENERS

One of the services offered for next spring by Philadelphia Council of Defense Victory Garden Committee is the free use of a tractor plow which was purchased from salvage proceeds. The plow may be borrowed by any resident having a garden of one acre or more.

### LIFTS SIREN BAN

Following the lead of Philadelphia and several other cities, Bradford has lifted its ban on the sounding of sirens on fire and police vehicles. It was felt that there is little danger of these sirens being mistaken for air raid signals.

### VICTOR NORTHUP DIES

A severe loss was felt by members of the Lackawanna County Control Center staff in the death of Victor Northup, deputy utility officer. His Civilian Defense associates served as honorary pallbearers. Mr. Northup was superintendent of the Scranton Electric Co.

### NEW COMMANDER

Eugene Hartsock, Chief Air Raid Warden in Mifflin County for the past year and a half, has been named Commander to succeed Captain Robert J. Krepps, who died following a heart attack late in November. Harold B. Fleisher was named Chief Warden.

## Broadcasts To Be Continued Weekly

The series of weekly War Services broadcasts sponsored by the SCD will be continued in the form of transcriptions until at least the middle of March, Mrs. Conway Zirkle, committee chairman, has announced.

The programs, originating over WHP, Harrisburg, at 5:30 p. m. each Wednesday, will be carried at later times by other stations in principal cities. Topics for future weeks are: Mar. 1, Child Care and Absenteeism; Mar. 8, Pre-Induction Meetings; and Mar. 15, Victory Gardens.

### HUNT LOST BOY

CD volunteers in Canonsburg turned out en masse on Jan. 22 to search for a five-year-old boy who was missing from his home. The boy was found in a nearby town the following day. Wilbert Zuber, CDC Commander, called out the volunteers through messengers and telephone calls.

### SERVICE BARS GIVEN TO SCD VOLUNTEERS

Twelve volunteers who have served faithfully with the SCD were awarded OCD Service Bars last month as the total number of awards made in the State mounted to 19,429.

The State Council volunteers honored were:

Mrs. Wm. J. Clothier, Ralph E. Flinn, Charles E. Clark, Mrs. H. B. Eliason, Warren R. Roberts, Mrs. Conway Zirkle, Dr. Warren Mack, Dr. Pauline Mack, Thomas E. Frye, C. L. Siebert, Harold A. Buch and Major Howard E. Bowman.

### SPEAKER CHAIRMAN CITES MORAL NEEDS

A reminder that America must not in the midst of war lose its appreciation of moral and spiritual values is sounded by Rev. J. C. Wygant, chairman of the Speakers Bureau of Warren County Council of Defense.

"May we look well to the spiritual foundations on which our country is so gloriously founded and nobly built, and without which no nation may long exist, and determine to hold fast that which is good," he said in a communication to DEFENSE COUNCIL NEWS.

### SUCCEEDS BODEN

Richard A. Jones, of Sunbury, has been appointed to succeed Clyde D. Boden, outgoing County Commissioner, as Chairman of Northumberland County Council of Defense. Jones had made a fine record as co-chairman of Salvage.